

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (currently amended) A blade assembly, ~~especially for an ice auger or the like,~~  
comprising  
a shank (1) and  
a bit head (2),  
wherein the shank (1) being provided comprises at least with elements (3) for mounting  
the bit head (2), and wherein the bit head (2) including comprises at least one or more disk-  
shaped bit member members (2a), which rotates ~~rotate (w)~~ during a drilling/boring operation and  
which ~~have~~ has an outer rim (2a1) thereof working as an actual cutting face in drilling/boring,  
~~characterized in that~~ and wherein the at least one rotary bit member (2a) ~~included in the bit head~~  
is disposed at an angle (a) of less than 45° relative to a drilled surface (A).

2. (currently amended) A The blade assembly ~~as set forth in claim 1,~~ its according to  
claim 1, wherein the shank (1) comprising comprises a structure, which projects in two or more  
directions and which has the at least one bit member members (2a) ~~included in the bit head (2)~~  
mounted on its arm elements in a dismountable fashion, ~~such as by using a screw connection or~~  
~~the like, characterized in that~~ the blade assembly further comprising:

arm elements (1a), projecting laterally from the shank (1) in a substantially horizontal  
plane, ~~are the arm elements being~~ shaped such that the angle (a) of each bit member (2a), ~~such as~~  
~~its inclination angle (a1), incidence/cutting angle (a2) and/or the like,~~ lies within the range of 5-

30° relative to the drilled surface (A).

3. (currently amended) A The blade assembly as set forth in claim 1 or 2, characterized ~~in that one or more bit members (2a) included in the bit head (2) are provided with~~ according to claim 1, wherein the at least one bit member comprises means (4) for enhancing the drilling action, such as a corrugation, a serration and/or the like, present on its cutting face (2a').

4. (currently amended) A The blade assembly as set forth in claim 1, characterized in ~~that~~ according to claim 1, wherein the bit head (2) comprises a pilot-hole boring central drill, such as a twist bit (CD) or the like, which is coupled to the blade assembly's shank (1); and the ~~rotary~~ at least one bit member (2a), which is disposed on at least one arm element (1a) coupled to the shank (1) and which drills the outer edge for a hole to be bored/drilled.

5. (currently amended) A The blade assembly as set forth in any of preceding claims 1-4, characterized in that according to claim 1, wherein the at least one bit member (2a) included in the bit head (2) has an inclination angle ( $\alpha$ ;  $\alpha_1$ ) of 14,5° 14.5° and/or an incidence/cutting angle ( $\alpha$ ;  $\alpha_2$ ) of 15°.

6. (currently amended) A The blade assembly as set forth in any of preceding claims 1-5, characterized in that its according to claim 1 wherein the shank (1) is provided with comprises means (5) for adjusting the distance of ~~one or more bit members (2a)~~ the at least one bit member with respect to a ~~centre~~ center axis ( $k$ ) of the shank (1).

7. (currently amended) A The blade assembly ~~as set forth in claim 6~~, characterized in ~~that according to claim 6, wherein~~ the means (5) for adjusting the distance of one or more bit members (2a) ~~are established by means of~~ comprises an elongated attachment hole (3a) ~~or the like present in the shank (1), such as in one or more of its arm elements (1a, 1a'')~~.

8. (currently amended) A The blade assembly ~~as set forth in any of preceding claims 1-7~~, characterized in ~~that one or more bit members (2a) included in the bit head (2) are according to claim 1, wherein the at least one bit member is adapted to have a flexible attachment to the shank (1), specifically for enabling self-adjustment of its cutting angle (a; a2).~~

9. (currently amended) A The blade assembly ~~as set forth in any of preceding claims 1-8~~, characterized in ~~that the bit member (2a) included in the bit head (2) according to claim 1, wherein the at least one bit member is manufactured in 1.5-3.5 mm gauge sheet steel, which is formed with the a cutting face (2a1) and/or the means (4) for enhanced drilling by die cutting or the like manner.~~

10. (currently amended) A The blade assembly ~~(v) as set forth in claim 9~~, characterized ~~in that according to claim 9, wherein~~ a bevel establishing the bit member's cutting face (2a') is surface ground to an angle ( $\epsilon$ ) of 25°.

11. (new) The blade assembly according to claim 2, wherein the at least one bit member is mounted on the arm elements of the structure using a screw connection.

12. (new) The blade assembly according to claim 2, wherein the angle of each bit member relative to the drilled surface is the inclination angle.

13. (new) The blade assembly according to claim 4, wherein the bit head comprises a twist bit.

14. (new) The blade assembly according to claim 7, wherein the elongated attachment hole is present in one or more arm elements of the shank.

15. (new) The blade assembly according to claim 8, wherein the flexible attachment to the shank enables self-adjustment of its cutting angle.